

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-08

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FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3883

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN JOSE 1500

LIMDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP PFOR CS

SUBJECT: FIGUERES VISIT: WASHINGTON MAY BE SCRUBBED

1. AT AIRPORT DEPARTURE, SEVERAL CABINET MEMBERS ASKED ME IF PRESIDENT NIXON WAS GOING TO RECEIVE FIGUERES. I REPLIED THAT SO FAR AS I KNEW SUCH A MEETING WAS NOT ON SCHEDULE. I ADDED THAT NORMAL PROCEDURES AND TIME AVAILABILITIES WERE SOMWHAT DISRUPTED AS RESULT OF WATERGATE AND CONSEQUENT MAJOR STAFF CHANGES, AND THIS MAY HAVE COMPLICATED MATTERS.

2. FATHER NUNEZ, RECTOR OF NEW UNIVERSITY AND OLD FRIEND OF FIGUERES WHO IS ACCOMPANYING HIM ON THIS TRIP, INFORMED ME THAT FOREIGN MINISTER FACIO HAD RECOMMENDED TO PRESIDENT (AS NUNEZ WAS GOING TO DO) THAT HE SCRUB WASHINGTON VISIT, BECAUSE FACIO DID NOT THINK IT APPROPRIATE TO GO TO SEAT OF GOVERNMENT IN PRIVATE CAPACITY AS IT WOULD BE EMBARRASING TO ALL CONCERNED. (FACIO HAD TOLD ME EARLIER THAT HAD HE BEEN HERE HE WOULD HAVE RECOMMENDED AGAINST WHOLE TRIP, BECAUSE HE THOUGHT IT EMBARRASSING, AWKARD AND NOT GENERALLY A GOOD IDEA). FATHER NUNEZ ALSO CONFIDED THAT FACIO WAS WORRIED SOMEONE WOULD SERVE FIGUERES WITH A SUBPOENA IN CONNECTION WITH VESCO CASE. I SAID I HAD NO REASON TO BELIEVE ANYTHING LIKE THAT WOULD HAPPEN. FATHER NUNEZ ALSO ASKED ME IF PRESIDENT OR STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS WOULD RECEIVE FIGUERES. I REPLIED AS PER 1 ABOVE.

3. MRS. FIGUERES SPOKE TO ME BRIEFLY LITERALLY AT FOOT OF PLANE STEPS AND, ALLUDING TO POSSIBILITY PRESIDENT MAY NOT GO TO
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PAGE 02 SAN JO 01500 021347 Z

WASHINGTON ASKED IF MIES HAVE REQUIRED.

2. WE WOULD RECOMMEND, THEREFORE, THAT APPROACH TO BONN GROUP OUTLINED PARA 4 REF A BE MODIFIED TO INCLUDE PROPOSAL THAT FRG SEEK TO EXTEND TO BERLIN THOSE PARTS OF NPT THAT RELATE TO SAFEGUARDS BUT NOT THOSE PARTS THAT RELATE TO POSSESSION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS OR DISARMAMENT IN GENERAL. THUS FRG EXTENSION OF NPT TO WEST BERLIN MIGHT BE LIMITED TO ARTICLES 3-5 AND 8-11. WE RECOGNIZE SOME ANOMALY COULD EXIST IF ONLY SAFEGUARDS PORTIONS OF NPT ARE EXTENDED TO BERLIN. HOWEVER, IT IS WHOLLY APPROPRIATE FOR FRG TO APPLY TO WEST BERLIN PEACEFUL USES OF NUCLEAR ENERGY PROVISIONS OF NPT. MOREOVER, WHILE FRG HAS NO STANDING TO MAKE SECURITY COMMITMENTS FOR WEST BERLIN, IT IS REASONABLE FOR IT TO UNDERTAKE CERTAIN SAFEGUARD COMMITMENTS WITH RESPECT TO WEST BERLIN TO ENSURE THAT NOTHING HAPPENS IN THIS CITY THAT VIOLATES OBLIGATIONS FRG HAS UNDERTAKEN WITH RESPECT TO FRG ITSELF.

3. WE ASSUME EMBASSY AND DEPARTMENT CONCUR WITH VIEWS ON " CONVENTION ON PROHIBITION OF DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTION AND STOCKPILING OF BACTERIOLOGICAL (BIOLOGICAL) AND TOXIC WEAPONS AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION" EXPRESSED PARA 4, REF B. KLEIN

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